AGRI CO-OPN. & FORESTS

430. The State Government undertook the annual tree planting drive during the Birthday festivities as usual. About 15,73,236 trees were planted throughout the State in addition to a good number of trees planted by the ryots themselves.

431. Several measures adopted under the Food Self-sufficiency drive covered a total area of 2,45,305 acres for augmenting production of food-grains. Out of this, an area of 24,563 acres of new lands were brought under cultivation of food-grains. The aggregate additional production of food-grains was estimated at 43,440 tons. The majority of food production schemes sponsored by the Government related primarily to works of permanent nature such as irrigation works.

(iii) Sericulture.

Market Conditions of Silk Industry.

432. Inadequate production of local silk owing to unfavourable seasonal conditions and stoppage of imports brought about an abnormal condition in the market. Prices were very unsteady with wide fluctuations.

433. The price of reeling cocoons per lb. varied from Rs. 1-6-0 in July 1949 to Rs. 3-4-0 in March 1950—price of charka silk likewise rose from Rs. 21 to Rs. 42 per lb. Local filature silk prices varied from Rs. 30 to Rs. 50. Recognising the acute shortage of raw silk and the various hardships caused to silk weaving interests and with a view to affording some relief, Government imported 20,000 lbs. of Italian silk and this was made available at Rs. 45 per lb.

Mulberry Cultivation.

434. The area under mulberry in the State was about 80,000 (78,000) acres. As the result of high prices obtaining during the year, a large number of gardens were planted and many old ones that had been neglected were renovated. More lands were being prepared for mulburry to be planted during the ensuing monsoons due to high prices of cocoons.

435. The total cultivated area of the Government mulberry gardens attached to the Government Farms was 76-6 acres, of which 58-28 acres were under bush mulberry and the rest were planted with trees.

436. Twenty cart-loads of mulberry cuttings and 14,000 mulberry seedlings were supplied free of cost to ryots for planting new gardens. For the first time, 450 grafts (Mysore × Japan) were made available to some sericulturists in Sidlaghatta area. Facilities were provided

for the supply of groundnut oil cake to sericulturists for the use of mulberry gardens.

437. There was an expansion of area under mulberry in the seed campaign areas of Kunigal, Bidadi and Sugganahalli. The aggregate acreage in the Seed Campaign area was 3,053 (2,924) acres. There were on the roll 3,760 selected Seed Cocoon rearers. The number of Mysore disease free layings distributed free of cost among seed cocoon rearers was 17·79 lakhs and nearly 35 crores of seed cocoons were produced. About 19 crores of cocoons were used for seed purposes in the State and the rest were purchased by Kollegal sericulturists and local reelers.

438. The number of 'original' disease free layings of foreign races distributed among 458 selected cocoon rearers in the cross breed rearing tracts of the State was 4·24 (4·52). These rearers produced nearly 436·5 lakhs of cocoons, of which 366·5 lakhs of good quality cocoons were utilised for seed purposes. Despite unfavourable conditions, the yield obtained was satisfactory, the maximum being 30,000 and the average being 15,000 seed cocoons per 100 disease free layings.

439. The two Hill Stations on the Biligirirangan Hills and Krishnarajendra Hills which fall under Post War Scheme prepared 11,222 re-invigorated disease-free layings. Ten acres of land were taken up for extending the Farm garden and 6 acres were, cleared of forest and prepared on the K. R. Hills, for extending the Farm Garden. Estimates for the construction of buildings on the Biligirirangan Hills were sanctioned.

440. Practical training was given in the Central Farm to 23 students, four of whom were from the United Provinces, Bihar and Ceylon.

441. Seven types of silk worm races were selected and reared during the year. These consisted of univoltine and bivoltine races in each of the Chinese and Japanese races, two European univoltines and the indigenous multivoltine.

442. The manufacture of a new mountage called the "Kaitan Revolving Mountage" now becoming popular in Japan was made and tried for mounting worms during the several seasons.

443. The opening of three cocoon markets on a voluntary basis was sanctioned and the Central Government have given a grant of Rs. 25,000 for this purpose.

AGRI., CO-OPN. & FORESTS

444. The Committee of Sericulture held only one meeting as it was superseded by the Silk Advisory Committee from 1st January 1950.

445. In partial execution of the scheme regarding the establishment of a sericultural school and Research Institute, the starting of the sericultural and botanical sections was sanctioned. The grant of Rs. 2 lakhs by the Central Silk Board towards the cost of the scheme was being awaited and steps were being taken to select a suitable site for the location of the mulberry garden for the Research Institute.

446. The two Government grainages under the Seed Supply scheme at Magadi and Sugganahalli continued to do useful work. They produced and distributed among the seed cocoon rearers 4·85 lakhs of disease-free layings of Mysore race. The starting of two more grainages at Hēbbur and Santhemavathur in Kunigal area was under consideration.

447. The opening of a Foreign Race Seed Cocoon Farm at T. Narasipur was sanctioned.

Govt. Silk Filature, Kankanhally.

448. The total quantity of cocoons purchased was 4,29,544 lbs. The total production of silk and silk waste was 25,987 lbs. and 11,444 lbs. respectively. The total quantity of silk and silk waste sold during the year was 26,901 lbs. and 10,968 lbs. respectively.

Govt. Silk Conditioning and Testing House Channapatna.

449. Twenty-two samples were tested and graded according to International Standard. One hundred and forty-four samples of foreign races and their cross-breeds with the indigenous race reared in the Sericultural section of the Research Branch, Government Silk Farm, Channapatna, were tested.

450. The deputation of five non-official gentlemen connected with the Silk Industry for a visit tour in Japan by the grant of a subsidy *viz.*, Rs. 2,000 each was sanctioned and the deputation of a Departmental Officer to Japan was also sanctioned. The revision and reprint of "The Hand Book of Sericulture in Mysore" by Messrs. N. Rama Rao and M. Yonemura was also sanctioned. Orders were issued renaming the designation of the Superintendent of Sericulture as Director of Sericulture in Mysore and of the Assistant Superintendent of Sericulture as Assistant Director of Sericulture.

451. The expenditure of the Department was Rs. 3·29 lakhs, of which Rs. 1·85 lakhs were spent on the maintenance of Farms, Grainage and seed Campaign.

Department of Animal Husbandry Services in Mysore.

452. The seasonal conditions remained satisfactory during the year. Fodder and water were generally available in all the Districts. The most outstanding features were (1) the transfer of Kunigal Stud Farm from the Mysore Military Department to the Department of Animal Husbandry Services, (2) starting of a Dairy Farm at Hessarghatta. (3) starting of a 1,000 Layer Poultry Farm also at Hessarghatta, (4) expansion of the Cattle Breeding Station at Ajjampur, (5) starting of an Experimental Cattle Breeding Unit for the improvement of malnad giddas and local buffaloes at Sulekere and (6) opening of 5 rural veterinary dispensaries. There was an alround increase in the work turned out by the rural dispensaries which was partly attributed to the increase in the number of institutions and partly to the increasing confidence which the Department is gaining among the rural public. The control of the Veterinary Hospital at Hebbal was transferred to the Principal, Agricultural College, Hebbal, on 1st February 1950 and the Dairy Farm attached to this Hospital under the control of the Department of Animal Husbandry Services was wound up simultaneously.

Contagious Diseases.

453. There were 27 outbreaks of rinderpest registered in Hassan, Chikmagalur and Chitaldrug Districts. Twenty thousand three hundred and thirty-eight inoculations and vaccinations were conducted against the disease. One thousand four hundred and sixty-four (2,740) cases of black-quarter were registered. The disease was less widely prevalent than during the previous year. Two lakhs eleven thousand and two hundred and fifteen (3,66,439) cattle were vaccinated against the disease. Four hundred and sixty-six (704) cases of *hæmorrhagic septicæmia* were registered and 90,226 (1,02,464) animals were protected from the disease. Five hundred and thirty (816) cases of anthrax were attended to and 10,165 (18,956) cattle were vaccinated against the disease. One thousand one hundred and seventy-five (1,324) cases of other contagious diseases